

## **Memorandum**

Date: April 20, 2005

To: Policy Board Members and Alternates

From: Robert D. Miller, Director

Subject: 2005 Home Tour

The 2005 Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour is just around the corner and will be held on May 7 and 8 this year. On Saturday, the hours will be 10 a.m.-5 p.m. On Sunday, the hours will be 1p.m.-5 p.m. A copy of the Tour Guide is included in your Policy Board packet.

This year's tour features 45 homes in Minneapolis and 18 in Saint Paul. This is the largest number of homes on a tour in almost 10 years.

The increased number of homes, sponsors and ads has resulted in the largest Guide ever published. The number of pages in the Guide increased to 36 from last years 28 (a jump of 29%).

This year also marks the restoration of our relationship with the City of Saint Paul and their full participation and support for the Tour. Other changes in this year's Tour that are of note:

- The Tour includes free admission to the James J. Hill mansion and the Alexander Ramsey House (thanks to our partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society).
- The Tour includes historic mini-tours in both Minneapolis and Saint Paul.
- Audubon, Jordan and Hale, Page, Diamond Lake are sponsoring neighborhood tours in Minneapolis and Dayton's Bluff is sponsoring a neighborhood tour in Saint Paul.
- The Guide has been reorganized to allow the Tour map to be pulled out and includes driving directions to the various homes on the map page.
- The primary distribution method has been changed. The Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Saint Paul and Ramsey County libraries have graciously agreed to stock and distribute guides. Their cooperation and support has been greatly appreciated.
- The number of sponsors increased from last years 13 to 19 this year.